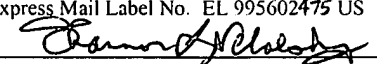


PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Craig M. Bethke)	Attorney Docket:
Serial No.:	NOT YET ASSIGNED)	91463 (BET-101.1 US)
Filed:	February 12, 2004)	I hereby certify that this paper is being
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)	Shannon L. Nebolsky Reg. No. 41,217

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents that may be material to the examination of this application is provided on the attached Form PTO-SB/08. Listed Documents A1 to A15 are U.S. and foreign patents, and/or pertinent articles that may be relevant to the examination of the present application.

Documents A1 to A15 listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited and supplied to the Patent and Trademark Office in the parental application, Serial No. 10/741,728, filed December 19, 2003, the benefit of which filing date is claimed herein. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), it is understood that only a list of art is required inasmuch as the art has been provided and discussed previously.

Information Disclosure Statement
February 12, 2004

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art

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February 12, 2004


or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The recitation herein of the art and documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

No further fee or petition is believed to be necessary. However, should any fee be needed, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23-0920, and deem this paper to be the required petition.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Shannon L. Nebolsky, Reg. No. 41,217

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Chicago, Illinois 60606
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10/24/2001 W&K Substitute for Form PTO-SB/08A, which is a US PTO Substitute for form 1449A/PTO and 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	February 12, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Craig M. Bethke
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	91463 (BET-101.1 US)
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	US-2,355,808	08/15/1944	Lawlor	
	A2	US-3,575,854	04/20/1971	Richards	
	A3	US-3,579,443	05/18/1971	Horst	
	A4	US-3,725,266	04/03/1973	Haviland	
	A5	US-3,778,368	12/11/1973	Nakamura et al.	
	A6	US-4,336,142	06/22/1982	Bye	
	A7	US-4,354,942	10/19/1982	Kaczur et al.	
	A8	US-4,418,961	12/06/1983	Strom et al.	
	A9	US-5,275,739	01/04/1994	Grant et al.	
	A10	US-5,324,433	06/28/1994	Grant et al.	
	A11	US-5,326,439	07/04/1994	Brewster	
	A12	US-5,348,662	09/20/1994	Yen et al.	
	A13	US-5,370,827	12/06/1994	Grant et al.	
	A14	US-6,398,960-B1	06/04/2002	Borden et al.	

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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